

## POLITICAL GOSSIP

Great Interest Developing in the Legislative Contests.

Many Contests of a Factional Nature.

OLD "LODGE" MEMBERS.

Only One of These Senators Has No Opposition.

F. Dumont Smith Opposed by Several Candidates.

In spite of the compelling interest of the fight for the Republican nomination for governor and United States senator, the politicians who closely watch the corners and try to keep control of the various branches of government are not neglecting the battle for supremacy in the Kansas senate and house of representatives.

It is greatly to be desired by the so-called machine that they should retain control of one or the other branch of the legislature. At the last two sessions they have controlled the senate and they will make a big struggle to retain control of that body.

The way things have lined up there will be enough of the old "senate lodge" left for seed, all right, and provided these seed fall in good soil in the senate chamber, the old iron-clad, bullet-proof railroad lodge will no doubt be revived.

The only member of the old senate lodge who is running without opposition is William Stillmore of Leavenworth. Leavenworth is well satisfied with Stillmore's record, apparently. At least no opposition to him materialized.

There is a total of seven districts which will surely send up senators who are counted as friends of the "machine."

Eleven districts will send up senators who are opposed to the machine.

In some of these districts, however, there will be fights, but the opposing candidates in each instance claim to be in favor of the same things.

In nineteen districts of the state there will be a square-tied, stand up and knock-out fight between machine and square deal candidates.

The Thirty-eighth district, which has a four cornered fight between Foulks, Glenn, Rogers and Fred Dumont Smith, is not included in this list because the fight is so mixed up that no one seems real sure who's who.

The Eighth and Thirty-sixth districts are counted as "compromise" districts. The Eighth district is Bourbon county, where Rice Gunn is running without opposition, and seems to be pledged to neither faction. In the Thirty-sixth, Emerson Carey has no opposition, and is said to be satisfactory to both crowds.

The Sixth district, which is now represented by Geo. H. Hodges, a Democrat, seems very likely to return Mr. Hodges in spite of anything the Republicans may do. J. B. Remington, of Osawatomie, will get the Republican nomination without opposition, and he is a square dealer. Hodges is also lined up with the square deal crowd, so the "dealers" are certain to get the district.

There are some beautiful and lively contests on in some of the districts for the senatorial nomination. Here are a few of them which should be watched:

Between James Getty and E. A. Enright, in Wyandotte county. Getty is the square deal candidate; Enright generally lined up with the machine while a member of the house of representatives.

Between Clad Hamilton and Arthur McCabe in Shawnee county. Hamilton is the square dealer, and McCabe is the "no clique" candidate. Neither has ever served in the legislature.

Between H. W. Avery of Wakefield and Frank L. Williams of Clay Center in the twenty-second district. W. H. Underwood is also on the list as a candidate, but he has withdrawn from the contest in Avery's interest. Williams was formerly Governor. He is a private secretary. He is C. C. Coleman's law partner, and has led the fight against city ownership of the electric light plant in Clay Center. He is the "machine" candidate, and Avery represents the "dealers."

Between B. F. McKercher and Tom Potter in the twenty-third district. Both live in Marion county, and both claim to be supporters of Stubbs. Governor Hoch is supporting Potter. McKercher is charged with being a professional politician. The fight is inclined to be productive of bitter personal animosities.

Between W. P. Hackney and A. F. Smith in the twenty-seventh district composed of Cowley county. Bill Hackney was independent while in the house of representatives, and is likely to continue so, but he is classed with the "machine" and Smith is on the other side of the contest.

Between R. T. Simons and George H. Hunter in the twenty-eighth. Simons was a tried and true enemy of the "lodge" at the last session, and the machine wants to take his scalp.

The fight between W. W. Caldwell and John L. Doyle in the thirty-second district is a hot one. Caldwell is a member of the senate lodge, and wants his constituents to vindicate him.

The same sort of a fight is on in the thirty-fifth district between G. L. Chapman and J. E. Guyer. Chapman was a man who was generally counted on to vote with the lodge, though he occasionally broke away. Guyer was one of the faithful friends of Stubbs in the house of representatives.

The contest between B. Jones and William Wells in the thirty-ninth district is an interesting one. Jones is a resident of Trego county, and has served a long time in the house. He is

a railway surgeon, and fought many of the Stubbs measures. Wells, who was also a house member, was a staunch supporter of Stubbs.

Leavenworth, Kan., July 22.—It is reported on good authority that John H. Atwood of this city, national committee member from Kansas, in a long distance telephone conversation Tuesday afternoon was asked by W. J. Bryan to accept the chairmanship of the speakers committee during the national Democratic campaign. It is said Atwood has agreed to take the appointment and will leave for Lincoln in a few days to hold further consultation with Mr. Bryan.

Independence, July 22, 1908. To the Editor of the State Journal.

Reports from all points in Montgomery county show that there is no anti-Long campaign in this county. The people of this county have never had any confidence in Bristow as a reformer, and the publication of his letter to Senator Long has only more clearly shown up his sycophantic character.

Long is admired here for the manner in which he so ably represents Kansas in the senate and for standing for the things that Taft and Roosevelt stand for. The people in this county believe in Long and will give him the largest majority of any county in the state.

C. J. BRYANT.

Makes Light of Serious Charges. The Emporia Gazette on Wednesday of last week made some serious charges against Congressman J. W. Miller, the most damaging one being that in relation to his alleged vote on the Union Pacific funding bill. The vote on this measure was cast by congressmen two years before Mr. Miller was even elected to congress. The Gazette now says:

"J. W. Miller goes to extremes, as regards length, in his defense of his congressional record, but he doesn't say a word about the one thing in which the plain people are vitally interested. They want to know why he sent them burn garden and flower seed last spring, and they cannot be side-tracked from the main issue by any amount of sophistries."

In explaining and defending his official record, he makes an extremely adroit attempt to distract the attention of the voters from the real charge against him; that of sending his constituents packages of seeds.

"There is in Emporia a woman who is passionately fond of Sweet Williams. Her highest ambition always has been to make her garden a bower of these fragrant plants. The congressmen sent her burn garden and flower seed last spring, and they cannot be side-tracked from the main issue by any amount of sophistries."

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the position of standing for the things said in your paper, as you will readily see when I tell you that I could not possibly know anything about the home life of Mr. and Mrs. Leland, as she is said to have died some fourteen years ago, and I have only lived here about six years. During the time I have lived in Troy, Mr. Leland has been here very little. These things are well known by all of my neighbors and I want to be set right before them.

I trust you will do me the justice and the kindness to give this letter the same publicity that you did the interview attributed to me.

Yours very truly,  
M. L. KEMP.

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## MR. DRECHSEL DEAD.

Passes Away Early This Morning at Stormont Hospital.

William E. Drechsel, the well known Kansas Avenue shoe merchant, died at Stormont hospital this morning at 1:50 of peritonitis and complications following an operation for appendicitis which he underwent Friday. Mr. Drechsel had complained of ill health for some time, but well, but at his home Tuesday, but remained at home most of the day following though no apprehension was felt.



Wm. E. Drechsel, Who Died at an Early Hour This Morning.

The discovery was made Thursday that he was suffering from an attack of appendicitis and he was taken to Stormont hospital where an operation was performed Friday. During the operation it was found that he was also suffering from peritonitis and that his condition was serious as gangrene had set in.

His condition was considered critical from this time on, though the fact that he survived the operation for three days gave rise to a hope of his recovery. Saturday he rallied and continued to improve throughout the day, the change for the worst taking place Tuesday morning, when all hope of recovery was abandoned by the physicians and friends.

Mr. Drechsel was born in Leavenworth, October 25th, 1877, where he attended the public school until he was 16 years of age, when he entered Marmaduke Military academy at Sweet Springs, Missouri. Completing a course at the academy he returned to Leavenworth and in June, 1896, became associated with his father, A. J. Drechsel in the mercantile business.

He remained in business with his father for a year and then accepted a position as city representative of the Brown Shoe company in Kansas City. He remained with this firm for a year and returned to Leavenworth to accept a position as city weighmaster, which he resigned two years later and returned to Kansas City as city representative and advertising man for the Bond Shoe company.

In June 1900 he came to Topeka, where he formed a partnership with George H. Matthews in the shoe business which continued for a number of years. Drechsel was suddenly chasing the interest of his partner and continuing the business at the corner of Seventh street and Kansas avenue. When this property was purchased by the Federal Trust company in 1900 he moved to the present site of the Drechsel shoe store on the opposite side of Kansas avenue.

Mr. Drechsel married Miss Mary L. Ryan of Leavenworth, April 15, 1900, and was engaged in the shoe business with his father-in-law for a short time, prior to moving to Topeka with his family. From his first acquaintance with Mr. Drechsel, he had been identified with the upbuilding of the city, being one of the members of the Commercial club.

By a strange turn of fate Mr. Drechsel and his partner, George H. Matthews whom he had known since childhood and whose life had been closely linked with his own died within three weeks of each other. The death of the two men was sudden and a blow to their friends as both seemed to be in the best of health up to within a few hours of their death.

Mr. Matthews, who died three weeks ago, had complained of feeling ill and retired to his home one morning and an hour later was found where he had died of heart failure by his physician, who had come to see him. Mr. Drechsel was among the first to attend the bedside of his old partner and friend, excepting the immediate members of the Matthews family, and he was a source of comfort and sympathy to the bereaved family.

Only three days remain in which to raise the necessary money for the Topeka-Southwestern road to commence work. What had become of the money of \$50 which had this matter in charge.

W. E. Sterne's announcement of his candidacy for county commissioner was not published in the Saturday edition of the State Journal but space is used in the issue of today for that purpose.

Rev. Father Francis C. Elast, pastor of the Catholic church at Osage Creek spent Tuesday in Topeka as the guest of Very Rev. Dean F. M. Hayden, rector of the Church of the Assumption.

One of the most popular resorts in the city at the present time is the Central Y. M. C. A., swimming pool where two hundred men and boys daily find a few moments relief from the excessive heat.

"With the mercury around about where it has been for the past ten days it makes little difference whether Long and Bristow debate at the auditorium or Vinewood park," remarked a local politician "for in either event they will have to get along without my presence."

City Attorney Drenning dismissed the suits against J. E. House, W. B. Flowers, Robert Smith and George Rawlins, charged in police court with violation of the Sunday labor ordinance. City attorney a few hours before the suits were brought to trial declared that he would prosecute them. But there are 240 minutes in four hours, and this is plenty of time for a change of heart. The city attorney shifted the responsibility upon the shoulders of Mayor Green. This was perfectly natural, and would have worked all right, but his honor proved an alibi.

The people living in the vicinity of Eighth and Madison street take exceptions to the manner in which the dog catcher performs his duties. Yesterday a call was sent by Ed McCurran, living at 815 Madison street, for the dog catcher to come and get a stray cur that had taken up its abode with McCurran. The official arrived promptly accompanied by his equine. They chased the doggie all over the neighborhood and finally wounded it in two places after a lively bombardment with a shot gun. They then took the wounded dog away with them instead of at once putting it out of its misery.

Bought 100,000 Bushels of Wheat. Wichita, July 22.—Tuesday was a busy day for the grain buyers in the Sedgewick building. Over 100,000 bushels of wheat were brought by representatives for the large grain and feed concerns in this part of the country. July is unusually dry and the brokers after the close of the dull season and with the shipments of the new wheat.

Beauty's Aid  
Woman may improve her complexion, keep her face free from pimples and humors; brighten her eyes and purify the blood by the occasional use of  
**Beecham's Pills**  
Sold Everywhere. In boxes 10c. and 25c.

## The Crosby Bros. Co.

About a Hundred Wool Skirts at a Third Less Than Regular

Women will wear separate skirts as long as they wear shirt waists—and that means as long as they want comfort in dress.

Talk all you'r a'mind to; there's nothing more suitable for summer wear than a neat, well-fitting skirt and fresh, crisp waists. And here's Skirts at a saving of a third.

There's about a hundred of them—blacks, browns and navy blues in chiffon Panamas and stripes, checks and mixtures in tropical weight worsteds.

As to styles; there's plenty of both flare and plaited models and combinations of the two. Some have self folds, some have silk folds, some are button trimmed and some are plain.

The original prices ranged from \$5 to \$15. There's a splendid assortment to choose from at

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SNAPSHOTS

H. L. Hull, assistant ticket agent of the Rock Island, has gone to Queen, Ark., to testify in a law suit.

Today is Kansas day at the Chautauqua and Judge Benson of the supreme court is the leading attraction.

August Alba has been granted a permit for the erection of a \$4,000 one story brick building at 1009 Kansas avenue.

The flags on the Elk lodge building are at half mast today on account of the death of W. E. Drechsel, which occurred last night.

The Chautauqua association will purchase its own grounds hereafter, providing a movement now on foot assumes definite form.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hammond of 628 Western avenue announce the birth of a ten pound son, which arrived at their home Sunday.

The colored people are arranging for a big Emancipation day celebration at Garfield park which will take place next Saturday, the forty-fifth anniversary of that event.

George Lerrigo, secretary of the Central Y. M. C. A., and Frank Forber will leave Monday for Estes Park, Colo., to attend a ten days' conference of the western Y. M. C. A.

Twenty boys from the Central Y. M. C. A., spent the morning at the Santa Fe shops in charge of C. H. Fenstermacher, secretary of the boys' department of the Central Y. M. C. A.

The monthly men's meeting which is given under the auspices of the Central Y. M. C. A. will be held on the east steps of the state house Sunday afternoon, August 2 at 4 o'clock.

Only three days remain in which to raise the necessary money for the Topeka-Southwestern road to commence work. What had become of the money of \$50 which had this matter in charge.

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